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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/088,163	06/01/1998	JOHN R. MOSER, JR	960514.ORI	1414

7590 04/20/2004

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[REDACTED] EXAMINER

MILLER, EDWARD A

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
	3641

DATE MAILED: 04/20/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/088,163

Applicant(s)

MOSER, JR, JOHN R.

Examiner

Edward A. Miller

Art Unit

3641

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 1 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 04 February 2004.
- 2a) This action is FINAL. 2b) This action is non-final.
- 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) Claim(s) 70-85 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) Claim(s) _____ is/are rejected.
- 7) Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) Claim(s) 70-85 are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) All b) Some * c) None of:
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.

- 4) Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
- 5) Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) Other: _____.

Art Unit: 3641

1. The reply filed on February 04, 2004 is not fully responsive to the prior Office Action because of the following omission(s) or matter(s):

In the reply, applicants elected claim 83 as the species. However, claims are not species. See MPEP 806.04(e), Claims Restricted to Species. [emphasis added.]

"Claims are definitions of inventions. Claims are never species. Claims may be restricted to a single disclosed embodiment (i.e., a single species, and thus be designated a specific species claim), or a claim may include two or more of the disclosed embodiments within the breadth and scope of definition (and thus be designated a generic or genus claim). Species are always the specifically different embodiments."

If one looks to claim 83, then if this means that applicants intended to claim a single example of 11% of the stated polymer cured with an isocyanate curing agent, 12% nitroglycerine (e.g., one plasticizer), 22% aluminum, and 53% ammonium perchlorate, this could be okay. Note that claim 83 is not a single example as to the plasticizer. On the one hand, the amounts add to 98%, but this is not a problem from the "about" limitations. However, consider that an election of such content as the species would have the scope of "consists of" or "is". Thus, for purposes of the elected species, no ingredient may be added to change the election. To merely recite "isocyanate" curing agent is an admission that all isocyanates are not patentably distinct (and valid for the purposes of 35 USC 103). Further, a later attempt to amend the elected species to a specific isocyanates such as TDI would not be not permitted, as a shift in the election. A complementary amendment of all the claims to require [TDI, e.g.] as the isocyanate curing agent would be expected to be found non-responsive, as not being limited to the previously elected species. Thus, one may not elect a generic or subgeneric expression, as a claim; one must elect one single example as a single species, except to the extent that the members of a genus are admitted patentably indistinct.

Applicants are required to complete / clarify their election in response to this action, including listing all the claims which they urge read on the elected species. Of course, if a generic claim is found allowable, then all claims properly dependent thereon would also be considered.

2. See 37 CFR 1.111. Since the above-mentioned reply appears to be *bona fide*, applicant is given **ONE (1) MONTH or THIRTY (30) DAYS** from the mailing date of this notice, whichever is longer, within which to supply the omission or correction in order to avoid abandonment.

EXTENSIONS OF THIS TIME PERIOD MAY BE GRANTED UNDER 37 CFR 1.136(a).

3. Any inquiry concerning either this or an earlier communication from the Examiner should be directed to Examiner Edward A. Miller at (703) 306-4163. Examiner Miller may normally be reached Monday-Thursday, from 10 AM to 7 PM.

If attempts to reach Examiner Miller by telephone are unsuccessful, his supervisor Mr. Carone can be reached at (703) 306-4198.

If there is no answer, or for any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the application status, please call the Group receptionist at (703) 308-1113.

Miller/em
April 19, 2004



EDWARD A. MILLER
PRIMARY EXAMINER